

## SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

---

Tuesday, July 6, 2023, 5:30 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common and Zoom

---

Present: Selectboard members Richard Baker, Justin Campbell, and Michele Gonzales; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Visitors: Michael Xenakis

At 5:45 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Richard Baker

**Changes or additions to the agenda:** Resignation from energy committee; proposal for ant removal, statutory changes to zoning laws, request for a cooling center

**Public Comment:** none

**Minutes:** approved the minutes of the June 20, 2023 Selectboard meeting

**Ants:** The Board received a notice from Joe Mulligan that there are carpenter ants in the building. Justin suggested asking our maintenance person to look around and see if he can find any evidence of damage, to help direct Joe about where to treat.

**Resignation:** Ellen Keene has resigned from the Energy Committee.

**Cooling:** Justin received an inquiry about whether the Old Schoolhouse Common could be designated as a cooling center. The Board discussed that the building is not air conditioned but Justin will work on a contact procedure.

**Pike Road:** Viiu Niiler asked for permission to close Pike Road in order to have some trees cut. The Board approved, as long as the road would be reopened at night, and as long as she notifies affected neighbors.

**Worker's Comp:** Bobbi explained that VLCT is now charging us for worker's comp insurance for the library programs. The Board will ask to have worker's comp included in the Library's budget next year.

**Municipal Energy Resilience Grants:** Mike Xenakis explained that the grants are now open. Audits will be conducted and the audit will be used to develop a scope of work for improvements that could be done. There are mini grants for education. The Board approved applying for a grant for a level 2 audit. Mike is going to start the application.

**Leadership:** The Town gets one free registration for the leadership conference. The Board agreed to send Michelle McCormick.

**ARPA:** The State still has ARPA funds to spend. Rich attended a workshop about the funding. He explained that one of the problems with grants is that small communities don't have the staff to apply for funding. There may be funding available to help with that – funding to pay someone to develop projects for possible funding. The State Library has \$16.4 million in capital improvement

funds; grants will be available in the fall.

**Home Act:** Rich explained that there are changes to state statutes that require changes to zoning. He will work with the Planning Commission to write changes to the zoning regs. The changes require higher density in areas served by municipal water and sewer. There are changes that involve duplexes, accessory dwelling units, and other affordable housing practices. There are changes to the way the zoning ordinance gets enacted.

**Cybersecurity:** Bobbi is getting estimates for computer upgrades.

**Promissory Note:** The Board signed the promissory note for the truck that was ordered last year. The loan will be \$110,000 at 2% interest, from the State's Municipal Equipment Loan Fund.

**Stranahan:** The Board signed an extension to the Brimblecombe sugaring lease. The extension was approved in January.

**Mowing:** The Board signed contracts with Don Mitchell, for mowing the Old Schoolhouse Common, and Derrek Salls, for mowing the covered bridge property. Their bids were approved in the fall but they did not sign their contracts until this spring.

**Expenses, Permits & Payroll:** Selectboard members read and approved reports for General Expenses and Payroll.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the July 6, 2023 Selectboard Meeting.  
A True Record. Attest, \_\_\_\_\_, Town Clerk

\*\*\*\*\*